

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5**

DATE: September 29, 2000

SUBJECT: Reports of Significant Developments and Activities
Ending on September 22, 2000

FROM: William E. Muno, Director
Superfund Division

TO: Francis X. Lyons
Regional Administrator

David A. Ullrich
Deputy Regional Administrator

The activities listed below are organized by site-specific activities and other significant developments.

SITE-SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

Removal Completion, Old Ironsides Battery Site, Cambellsport, Wisconsin

On September 15, 2000, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) Emergency Response Branch completed a time-critical removal action at the Old Ironsides Battery site, a defunct automotive battery manufacturing facility in Cambellsport, Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin. The removal action involved the removal of drummed wastes and lead dust contamination from the battery manufacturing building, and excavation of lead contaminated soil from various parts of the site. A portion of the manufacturing building was demolished and the remaining building's interior was pressure washed and the floors were encapsulated with an epoxy sealer. Redevelopment of the site property is being coordinated by the Region 5 Brownfields Section, Region 5 Office of Regional Counsel, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and Fond du Lac County.

Contacts: Charles Gebien (312-353-7645)
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Jane Neumann (312-353-0123)

Response (Mercury-Regulator), Residence, Lincoln Park, Michigan

On August 23, 2000, U.S. EPA's Response Section 1, Grosse Ile, Michigan, received a report of a mercury spill from the MichCon Gas Company (MichCon). The release occurred in a home during gas regulator change out in Lincoln Park, Michigan. On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Dollhopf responded to the incident and worked with MichCon to ensure that spill was effectively cleaned.

Contact: Ralph Dollhopf (734-692-7682)

Site Deletion (National Priorities List), Cliff/Dow Dump Superfund Site, Marquette, Michigan

On September 18, 2000, a Proposed and Direct Final Notice of Deletion from the National Priorities List (NPL) was published in the Federal Register for the Cliff/Dow Superfund site in Marquette, Michigan. A Record of Decision (ROD) was issued by U.S. EPA for the site in September 1989. The major components of the selected remedial action in the ROD included: excavation and treatment, via incineration, of approximately 200 cubic yards of exposed tar; excavation, segregation and treatment, via incineration, of approximately 200 cubic yards of buried tar; excavation and treatment, via enhanced biological treatment or removal, of approximately 9,200 cubic yards of residual contaminated fill material; import of clean backfill and topsoil for cover/revegetation of excavation area; site deed restrictions that prevent installation of drinking water wells within the vicinity of the contaminated groundwater boundaries; and, a groundwater/air monitoring program to confirm the adequacy of enhanced biological treatment of residual contaminated fill material and in-situ biotreatment of residual groundwater contamination.

The remedy selected for this site has been implemented in accordance with the ROD. U.S. EPA and the State of Michigan have determined that the remedy implemented continues to provide adequate protection of human health and the environment.

Contacts: Kenneth Glatz (312-886-1434)
Gladys Beard (312-886-7253)

Consent Decree Signed, Electrovoice Superfund Site, Buchanan, Michigan

Mark IV Industries entered into a consent decree with U.S. EPA to conduct the remedial design and remedial action (RD/RA) for the off-property groundwater cleanup at the Electrovoice Superfund site in Buchanan, Michigan. The consent decree was signed by the U.S. EPA Region 5 Superfund Division Director, William E. Munro, on September 19, 2000, and was sent to the U.S. Department of Justice for lodging. Negotiations with the potentially responsible party (PRP) have been on-going since March 2000. The off-property groundwater cleanup will involve monitored natural attenuation, institutional controls, and contingency actions. The primary groundwater contaminants are trichloroethene and vinyl chloride. The primary natural attenuation processes affecting the off-property groundwater contamination are stream capture and dilution, with some biodegradation. Cleanup levels for groundwater are expected to be attained in 53 to 66 years. The estimated present worth cost of the remedy is \$145,000. Mark IV Industries will also pay for U.S. EPA's oversight costs.

Contact: Karen Cibulskis (312-886-1843)

Settlement Reached, Stock Yards Packing Company, Inc., Chicago, Illinois

On September 15, 2000, U.S. EPA filed a Consent Agreement and Final Order to resolve the Administrative Complaint against Stock Yards Packing Company, Inc., Chicago, Illinois. On January 12, 2000 (updated on February 11, 2000), the Facility self-disclosed violations of Section 312 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act. The Facility failed to submit the Emergency and Hazardous Chemical Inventory Form to the State Emergency Response Commission and the Local Emergency Planning Committee for calendar years 1996-1998, by the March 1, 2000, deadline. The penalty in the Complaint was \$30,821. Due to ambiguities in the self-disclosure Federal Register Notice, U.S. EPA agreed to mitigate the penalty to \$11,855. The Respondent will have 30 days to submit a compliance certification and payment to U.S. EPA.

Contact: James Entzminger (312-886-4062)

Settlement Reached, United Oil Products, Limited Liability Corporation, McCook, Illinois

On September 19, 2000, U.S. EPA filed a joint Administrative Complaint and Consent Agreement and Final Order against United Oil Products, Limited Liability Corporation (UOP, LLC), in McCook, Illinois. UOP, LLC failed to immediately notify the National Response Center about a release that occurred on October 29, 1998. The chemical released was Resource Conservation and Recovery Act unlisted hazardous wastes characteristic of ignitability. The total quantity released was 1,142 pounds, of which 36 pounds was benzene. Unlisted hazardous wastes have a reportable quantity (RQ) of 100 pounds under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, and benzene has a Reportable Quantity (RQ) of 10 pounds. UOP, LLC will pay a cash penalty of \$6,188, and perform a Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) valued at \$84,060. The total cash outlay for UOP, LLC will be \$90,248. The SEP will be to install secondary containment around their temporary storage tanks. UOP, LLC will have 30 days to make payment to "Superfund" and 150 days to complete the SEP.

Contact: James Entzminger (312-886-4062)

Five-Year Review Report Completed, Northern Engraving Co. Superfund Site, Sparta, Wisconsin

On September 14, 2000, a five-year review report was signed for the Northern Engraving Co. Superfund site in Sparta, Wisconsin. On September 28, 1987, the Regional Administrator approved a Record of Decision (ROD) which selected the following remedial actions at the site: solidification of contaminated sludges and soils in the sludge lagoon, and installation of a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) cover atop the lagoon to minimize leaching of contaminants into groundwater and reduce health risks related to direct contact with the sludges and soils; excavation of contaminated soils in the drainage ditch and solidification of those soils in the sludge lagoon to minimize health risks associated with direct contact with the soil; implementation of land development restrictions at the seepage pit to minimize the potential for direct contact with contaminated soils; institution of long-term groundwater monitoring to track changes in groundwater quality relative to Resource

Conservation and Recovery Act groundwater protection standards; and, excavation of contaminated sludges and soils in the sludge dump site and solidification of those sludges and soils in the sludge lagoon to effectively minimize the migration of contaminants into the groundwater and any risks associated with direct contact with the sludges and soil.

All the conditions in the ROD have been implemented. A site inspection was conducted on August 24, 2000, to confirm that the remedy remains protective of both human health and the environment.

Contact: Gladys Beard (312-886-7253)

Five-Year Review Report Completed, Southside Sanitary Landfill Superfund Site, Indianapolis, Indiana

On September 20, 2000, a five-year review report was signed for the Southside Sanitary Landfill (SSL) site in Indianapolis, Indiana. The SSL site was proposed for inclusion on the National Priority List (NPL) in June 1986 and became final on the National Priority List (NPL) in March 1989. A Record of Decision (ROD) was signed on September 14, 1995. The ROD specified "No Further Action" as certain remedial measures were implemented at the site in accordance with the November 25, 1986, Agreed Order signed between the State and the SSL operators. These measures included: construction and installation of a hydraulic cut-off barrier (slurry wall) around the site, a leachate collection system, a network monitoring system, as well as cover and grading requirements, operating procedures, and closure and post-closure requirements.

A site visit was conducted on June 21, 2000. The purpose of the site visit was to assess site conditions and the protectiveness of the remedial measures. All site conditions remain protective of human health and the environment.

Contact: Gladys Beard (312-886-7253)

Five-Year Review Report Completed, TRW, Inc. (Minerva Plant) Superfund Site, Minerva, Ohio

On September 21, 2000, a five-year review report was signed for the TRW, Inc. (Minerva Plant) Superfund site in Minerva,

Ohio. This is the second five-year review for the TRW Minerva site. On May 9, 1986, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) and U.S. EPA entered into an Administrative Order on Consent with TRW for groundwater investigation and remediation which included, as a major component of the remedial action, the installation of a groundwater extraction well system. TRW was required to examine the effectiveness of the groundwater treatment system by comparing the predicted cleanup concentrations with actual analytical results from groundwater monitoring compliance wells, and then to report their findings to Ohio EPA. Reports prepared in connection with the Consent Order, numerous analytical data from the groundwater compliance wells and historical documents, were used in the preparation of this review and its recommendations.

All site conditions at TRW remain protective of human health and the environment.

Contact: Gladys Beard (312-886-7253)

Pre-final Inspection, Douglas Road Landfill, Mishawaka, Indiana

On September 14, 2000, a pre-final inspection was conducted at the Douglas Road Landfill site in Mishawaka, Indiana. The Record of Decision (ROD) remedies of a multilayer cap and an artificial wetland to treat groundwater contaminated with vinyl chloride and tetrachloroethylene, among others, are fully constructed. The groundwater extraction system will become fully operational during the month of October.

A Preliminary Site Closeout Report (PCOR) was signed by the Region on September 19, 2000.

Contact: Dion Novak (312-886-4737)

Soil Sample Collection, Altgeld Gardens, Chicago, Illinois

On September 20-21, 2000, three Field Services Section personnel using the Superfund Division Concord Drill assisted the Pesticides and Toxics Control Section in the collection of 30 soil samples from a depth of two feet at the Dorothy Gautreaux Child/Parent Center at Altgeld Gardens in Chicago, Illinois. These soil samples will be used to verify that the

cleanup of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in the soil is complete.

Contact: Steven Peterson (312-353-1422)

Small Diameter Well Installation, Conservation Chemical Company, Gary, Indiana

On September 18-19, 2000, Field Services Section (FSS) personnel assisted the Emergency Response Branch at the Conservation Chemical Company site in Gary, Indiana, by installing 14 one-inch polyvinyl chloride (PVC) piezometers using the Superfund Division Geoprobe. The piezometers were installed in a continuing effort to determine if any oily contaminants were near the water table. Once the piezometer wells were installed, an oil/water interface probe was used to obtain the desired data.

Contact: Steven Peterson (312-353-1422)

OTHER SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS

Mercury-Regulator Discussions, MichCon Gas Company and other Michigan Gas Utilities, Detroit, Michigan

On September 8, 2000, On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Ralph Dollhopf, other OSCs, and Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) and Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) staff met with the MichCon Gas Company (MichCon) to discuss whether MichCon could have system-wide problem with mercury-regulators similar to the Illinois (Nicor) situation. On September 15, 2000, the OSCs, MichCon, MDCH, and MPSC met again to discuss MichCon's internal assessment of its potential residential mercury issue. At this time MichCon requested more time to prepare to sample residences and get its public information teams up to speed. On September 16, 2000, MichCon provided a list to the OSCs of 36 residential sites where it knows it has had mercury released from regulators.

On September 19, 2000, the above agencies and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), met with MichCon to discuss MichCon's readiness preparations. A plan for MichCon to "go public" and to begin residential sampling on September 26, 2000, was discussed. At this time, MichCon does

not know the number of regulators. It acknowledges that theoretically, the number is as high as 70,000, but is likely to be much lower after the company has completed its internal inventory process.

On September 21, 2000, all above agencies met again to finalize project kickoff preparations. This time, representatives of other Michigan Gas utilities attended, as well.

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